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## IN-THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Group Art Unit:

THIERRY ROMANET et al

Examiner:

Serial No.: US National Phase of  
PCT/FR00/02670

Filed: concurrently herewith

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS USING HEAT FLUX  
TO DETECT OR MEASURE A DEPOSIT LIABLE  
TO FORM IN A FLUID-TRANSPORT PIPEPRELIMINARY AMENDMENTHonorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Before calculation of the filing fee, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows:IN THE CLAIMS:Please amend the claims as set forth hereinbelow and in  
the attached appendix:

1. (Amended) A method of detecting a deposit (D) that  
might form inside a fluid transport pipe (2), the method  
comprising:

- applying a thermal gradient (G) to at least one "active"  
zone (Za) of the outside surface of the pipe;
- measuring the heat flux (F) in at least one zone (Zm) of